

Claim PTO

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) Textile machine comprising at least one dust removal device ~~containing~~ said dust removal device having at least one electrostatically chargeable dust collector element (16) ~~and a~~ means for charging said dust collector element (16) and means (24, 25) for removing dust collected with the dust collector element (16).

2. (Original) Textile machine according to Claim 1 and being designed as a circular knitting machine.

Claims 3-4 cancelled.

4 3. (Currently amended) Textile machine according to claim ~~3~~³ wherein a station (21) determined for electrostatic charging is associated with said collector element (16) and wherein said means for removing the dust has a station (24) determined for discharging said collector element (16) and a dust removal device (25).

Claim 6 cancelled.

5 1. (Original) Textile machine according to claim 2, and further comprising a plurality of thread feed devices (9) distributed around a rotational axis (3), wherein said collector element (16) is assigned to said thread feed devices (9).

Claim 8 cancelled.

6 2. (Currently amended) Textile machine according to one of Claim 3¹, wherein a plurality of guide rollers (17) and at least one drive roller (17a) are provided for said collector element (16).

7 3. (Currently amended) Textile machine according to one of Claim 3¹, wherein a plurality of guide rollers (17) and at least one drive roller (17a) are provided for said collector element (16) and at least one guide roller (17b) is provided at said station (21) determined for charging, said at least one guide roller (17b) being made from a conductive material.

8 4. (Currently amended) Textile machine according to Claim 3¹, wherein a plurality of guide rollers (17) and at least one drive roller (17a) are provided for said collector element (16) and wherein at least one guide roller (17b) is provided at said station (21) determined for charging, said at

least one guide roller (17b) being made from a conductive material whereas other rollers of said plurality of guide rollers (17) are made of a non-conductive material.

9. ~~12~~. (Original) Textile machine according to claim ~~10~~⁷, wherein said at least one guide roller (17b) is configured as an exciter roller.

3. ~~13~~. (New) Textile machine comprising at least one dust removal device containing at least one electrostatically chargeable dust collector element (16) and a means (24, 25) for removing dust collected with the dust collector element (16), wherein said collector element (16) contains a moveable belt made from high-resistance material, said belt being arranged for the transport of dust to a central dust removal point.

10. ~~14~~. (New) Textile machine comprising at least one dust removal device containing at least one electrostatically chargeable dust collector element (16) and a means (24, 25) for removing dust collected with the dust collector element (16), wherein said collector element (16) contains a moveable belt made from high-resistance material, said belt being arranged for the transport of dust to a central dust removal point.

11 15. (New) Textile machine comprising at least one dust removal device containing at least one electrostatically chargeable dust collector element (16) and a means (24, 25) for removing dust collected with the dust collector element (16), wherein said dust collector element (16) has at least one continuous belt rotating around a rotational axis (3) of said circular knitting machine.

12 16. (New) Textile machine comprising at least one dust removal device containing at least one electrostatically chargeable dust collector element (16) and a means (24, 25) for removing dust collected with the dust collector element (16), wherein the textile machine being designed as a circular knitting machine, and a plurality of thread feed devices (9, 10), which are distributed around a rotational axis (3) and arranged in at least two planes lying one above the other, and wherein said dust removal device for each plane has at least one continuous, circulating collector element (16) and a means (24, 25) associated with said element (16) for the removal of dust.